

Board of Fire Commissioners  
March 5, 2019  
Company #1 Firehouse  
Regular Meeting

Commissioners present: Jennifer Spencer, Bruce Dutch, Howie Bogue  
Visitors: Chief Auld, John Sarnik, Tim Joseph, Nick Ortelle, Eric Kolasinski, Emmett Lyman

1. Call to Order 6:00pm
2. Acceptance of Minutes
  - a. Motion by B. Dutch, seconded by J. Spencer, to accept the minutes from February 5, 2019. Motion so passed.
3. Bill Approval: Recent submissions reviewed and discussed
  - a. J. Spencer noted lack of follow through from EHAA paying the Zep bill. We received notice of intent to send to collections. Fire Department paid bill in full.
4. Budget Recap: Current expenditures reviewed. J. Spencer noted she was made aware the new budget submitted has been cut in half for 2019-2020. She was also made aware of steps to take if they feel full budget request is needed.
5. Old Business:
  - a. Cameras - made aware of need to request other quotes for needs of Fire Department. H. Bogue to speak with R Turner.
  - b. Safe - Safes should arrive this week.
  - c. Floors – Per Ron Turner we will need to have patch job done when weather improves.
  - d. Office update - Told that all improvements need to go to R. Turner for quotes and decisions. H. Bogue to discuss request.
  - e. Lights to exterior of Co #2 – H. Bogue to discuss completion with R. Turner.
  - f. IT - Per J. Sarnik new equipment is here and to be replaced. It was determined during a period the internet was down that there was an issue with the Gateway. All Comcast issues to be repaired in very near future. Voice mail will be set as well.
6. Visitors Participation: Visitors discussed concerns with increase in EMS calls they are taking. They took over 1/3 of the calls during the day totaling approximately 170 runs last year. What will their position be if there is significant change to ambulance and staffing possibly by a paid crew specific for EMS. They knew of recent meeting of First Selectman, L. D'Aquila and several ambulance officers. It was relayed that some negative words were said about the paid staff and this is very disrespectful and not appropriate.

J. Sarnik has discussed options with both First Selectman Lyman and Chief Auld. Is open to discussing how a budget could be developed utilizing current ambulance budget and known factors on billing.

First Selectman Lyman relayed there is no budget at this time for ambulance coverage – stating the ambulance is currently working to correct the increase of mutual aids. Time to get corrected is unknown but he felt it should be at least 60 days but not over 6 months. First Selectman Lyman reviewed the long process to change the PSA with OEMS and hospital. All options need to be looked at and remember most will take time to accomplish. Current contract with EHAA is staying open at this time per First Selectman Lyman.

7. Fire Chief Report:
  - a. Trailer for Ranger needs repair as floor is rotting out. Batteries needed to be replaced as well this week.
  - b. They need to have an electric outlet placed. H. Bogue to speak with R Turner.
  - c. Light tower keeps blowing bulbs. Requesting change to LED bulbs. E. Kolasinski will get information.
  - d. Primer is out on Tanker #1. 5 Star will look at it this week.
  - e. Chief Auld is requesting a machine to make own ID badges. J. Spencer will speak with Emergency Management Director Craig Mansfield about options and will get information at conference in April.
8. Fire Marshal's Report: None
9. Building Report:
  - a. No changes
10. Equipment Report: See Chief report
11. Correspondence:
  - a. None
12. New Business: Reviewed new budget is decreased by half. We will be notified to speak with BOF in the future.
13. Adjournment: Motion by H. Bogue, seconded by J. Spencer to adjourn meeting at 6:50pm. Motion so passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Spencer, Secretary